THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c) The report on Industrial Dispersal submitted by the National Committee on the Development of Backward Areas (NCDBA) has been examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries, State Governments, Union Territories. The concept of growth centre as recommended by the NCDBA has been taken into account while framing guidelines for the Central Infrastructure Assistance Scheme.

Heavy Water Plants

478. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the heavy water plant at Talcher in Orissa has not proved viable, if so, what is the nature of the problems faced by it;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Kota heavy water plant is prematurely sick, if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Tuticorin and the Baroda heavy water plants are also facing problems and their output is just about one-fifth of their capacity; if so what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to improve the working of these heavy water plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Certain technical deficiencies identified during the limited commissioning trials of the Talcher Heavy Water Plant are being rectified. The Kota heavy water plant is in an advanced stage of commissioning and has already started producing heavy water. As a result of modifications incorporated in the Tuticorin and Baroda heavy water plants, the rate of production of heavy water from these plants is very satisfactory.

Tribal Development Projects in Orissa

479. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are various tribal development projects under implementation in Phulanbani District, Orissa; and

(b) the details of the targets set and progress achieved under these projects and the number of persons who are likely to be benefited by those programmes in Phulanbani District during the Sixth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) The requisite information has been called for from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House later.

Strategies for linking Science and Technology in the Socio-Economic Development

480. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some strategies are proposed to be adopted to link science and technology with socio-economic development in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Planning Commission have suggested those strategies to the Department of Science and Technology; and

(c) if so, what are the details of those strategies proposed to be adopted in Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These strategies will apply to the Department of Science and Technology as also to the Agencies, Departments and Institutions of Central and